

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve for medical applications comprising:
  - a housing having a lumen extending therethrough from a proximal end to a distal end thereof; and
  - a flow control membrane extending across the lumen to control flow therethrough, the flow control membrane including a seating portion at which the flow control membrane is coupled to the housing and a lumen occluding portion having a slit extending therethrough so that, when the lumen occluding portion is subjected to a pressure of at least a predetermined threshold level, the lumen occluding portion moves from a closed configuration in which flow through the lumen is prevented to an open configuration in which flow is permitted and wherein a thickness of the seating portion is greater than a thickness of the lumen occluding portion,
  - wherein the seating portion covers a minority of a surface area of the lumen occluding portion in which the slit is disposed.
2. (Currently Amended) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, wherein the flow control membrane comprises a first membrane bonded to an annular base member, wherein an area of the base member [[membrane]] substantially corresponds to that of the seating portion and wherein the slit extends through the first membrane, and wherein a thickness of the flow control membrane at the seating portion is greater than a thickness of the lumen occluding portion.
3. (Previously Presented) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, further comprising a membrane retention portion of the housing, the membrane retention portion being adapted to apply a retentive compression force to the seating portion.
4. (Original) The pressure activated valve according to claim 2, further comprising a layer of adhesive disposed between the first membrane and the base membrane.
5. (Original) The pressure activated valve according to claim 2, wherein the first membrane has a thickness of no more than 0.035 in.
6. (Original) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the lumen occluding portion is between 0.005 and 0.100 inches.

7. (Previously Presented) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the seating portion is between 1 and 20 times a thickness of the lumen occluding portion.

8. - 28. (Canceled)